Secretary's Note

There will be more than four hundred papers which were published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission. If there is sufficient demand, private firms should be willing to publish them in book form; if not, then it means another Government subsidised publication.

Proceedings

In the absence of Shri De, Shri M.P.Das, Superintendent, Orissa State Archives, who was present, sought the permission of the Chair to move the resolution, but in view of a large number of resolutions for which the Chairman had already received requests from the members, consideration on the above resolution was put off.

(18) Setting up of National and State Institutes of Historical Research Studies

Resolution by Shri P.Sitapati Rao

In view of the importance of historical research in this country, it is recommended that each State Government consider the setting up of a State Institute of Historical Research Studies with a view to coordinate the research work of the various Governmental Departments of the State and Central Governments, the Universities and the other research organisations undertaking such research in each State. Such an Institute, along with the establishment of a State Council of Historical Research, would promote Historical Research Studies and enable the State Institutes to make valuable contributions to the history of India and its people.

The Government of India may also consider the setting up of a National Institute of Historical Research with a Council of Historical Research at the national Level to fully coordinate, organise, guide and undertake historical research studies and programmes at the State and national levels.

Explanatory Note

That there are several gaps in our present knowledge of the history of India is too well known a fact to require repetition. After the formation of the linguistic States, there has been a widely felt urge among the people in the States of India to acquaint themselves with the history and culture of the various languages and linquistic groups in this country. Historical research studies conducted in a proper and objective manner both at the regional and national levels to meet the aspirations of the United People of India will also help in the recognition of the unity of the people of India and further the cause of national integration.

Unfortunately, however, the institutional foundation for the conduct of historical research studies in this country is weak at present. Such studies are not only desultory, uncoordinated and poorly organised but also lag behind for want of adequate funds and Government patronage. Thus for example at the State level, several departments such as the State Departments of Archives, Archaeology, the Central Department of Archaeology, the Universities in the State and here and there a research society or organisation undertake historical studies at present with no sense of purpose, direction or proper coordination. There is thus

urgent need for a properly equipped and adequately staffed and financed State Institute of Historical Research Studies at the State level.

It is, therefore, suggested that the Indian Historical Records Commission strongly recommend the setting up of a State Institute of Historical Research Studies in every State, under the guidance of a State Council of Historical Studies Research to further and promote research studies on the history of India and the Indian people.

Similarly there is a case for a National Institute of Historical Studies to be established on the analogy of the National Scientific Laboratories. Research in the Social Sciences is as important as in the Fundamental and Applied Sciences, and Historical Research Studies are of paramount importance in transitional India at present, in that they would go a long way in promoting the cultural renaissance of the country and furthering National Integration. The National Institute as well as the State Institutes would be controlled by a Council of Historical Research at a National level to coordinate, organise, guide and undertake historical studies and programmes at the State and National levels.

Proceedings

The above resolution was not taken up for discussion due to the absence of the mover.

The following Resolutions were then moved one after the other with the permission of the Chair:-